

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/836,333

Examiner

Trenton J. Roche

Applicant(s)

YOO, CHANG-WOONG

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communications filed 23 June 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 2006.05.17
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Saryadvinder S. Sahota, Reg. No. 47,051 on 14 September 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:
a first data storage unit storing a first program and a second program;
a second data storage unit storing a product key of the first program according to the second program, the product key accommodating an installation of the first program, said second data storage unit being separate from said first data storage unit; and

a third program stored in the first data storage unit for reinstalling the first program, the third program reading the product key of the first program stored in the second data storage unit, when a product key from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit are identical,

with the third program being provided with an information input window to allow a user to directly input the product key, when a product key from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit being not identical with each other.

Claim 7 has been canceled.

The Examiner's amendment was required to more clearly define the invention and to obviate any possible rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 10-22 of the remarks, filed 23 June 2006, with respect to claims 1-28 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 2nd and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter & Examiner's Statement of Reason(s) for Allowance

3. Claims 1-28 are allowed.
4. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest found prior art of record, specifically, U.S. Patent 6,075,862 to Yoshida et al. (hereinafter "Yoshida"), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or reasonably suggest a method for storing a product key of an operating system program in accordance with independent claims 1, 12 and 15. Specifically, Yoshida fails to teach "*a first data storage unit storing a first program and a second program; a second data storage unit storing a product key of the first program...a third program stored in the first data storage unit for reinstalling the first program, the third program reading the product key of the first program stored in the second data storage unit, when a product key from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit are identical, with the third program being provided with an information input window to allow a user to directly input the product key, when a product key from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit being not identical with each other.*" (claim 1). Additionally, Yoshida fails to

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teach “*initiating an install of a first program...inputting a product key of the first program...writing the product key onto a second data storage unit of the computer system; installing the remainder of the first program after writing the product key; initiating a reinstallation of the first program...reading the product key from the second data storage unit; comparing the product key read from the second data storage unit with the product key of the first program; inputting the product key into a product key input window of the first program when the product keys are compared to be identical; and continuing to complete the reinstallation of the first program...*” (claim 15). Similar limitations are found in independent claim 12.

Instead, Yoshida discloses a decryption key management scheme which can enable the re-installation of software that was once decrypted and installed. The system retains the decryption key in memory, and upon re-installation, the system searches for the decryption key utilizing the software ID of the software to be re-installed. Upon discovery of a matching decryption key, the software is automatically decrypted and the software is re-installed. If no matching key is discovered, the key is retrieved from a distribution source. However, Yoshida does not disclose comparing the decryption key to the same decryption key previously used to decrypt the software; rather, it utilizes the software ID as the comparison basis. Furthermore, Yoshida does not disclose allowing the user to directly input a key into an information input window when the product keys are found not to be identical, as required by independent claim 1. Additionally, Yoshida does not disclose inputting the product key into the product key input window when the product key from the second data storage unit and the product key of the first program are found to be identical, as required by independent claims 12 and 15.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

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payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

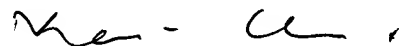
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trenton J. Roche whose telephone number is (571) 272-3733. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (571) 272-3719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Examiner
Art Unit 2193

TJR



**KAKALI CHAKI
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